

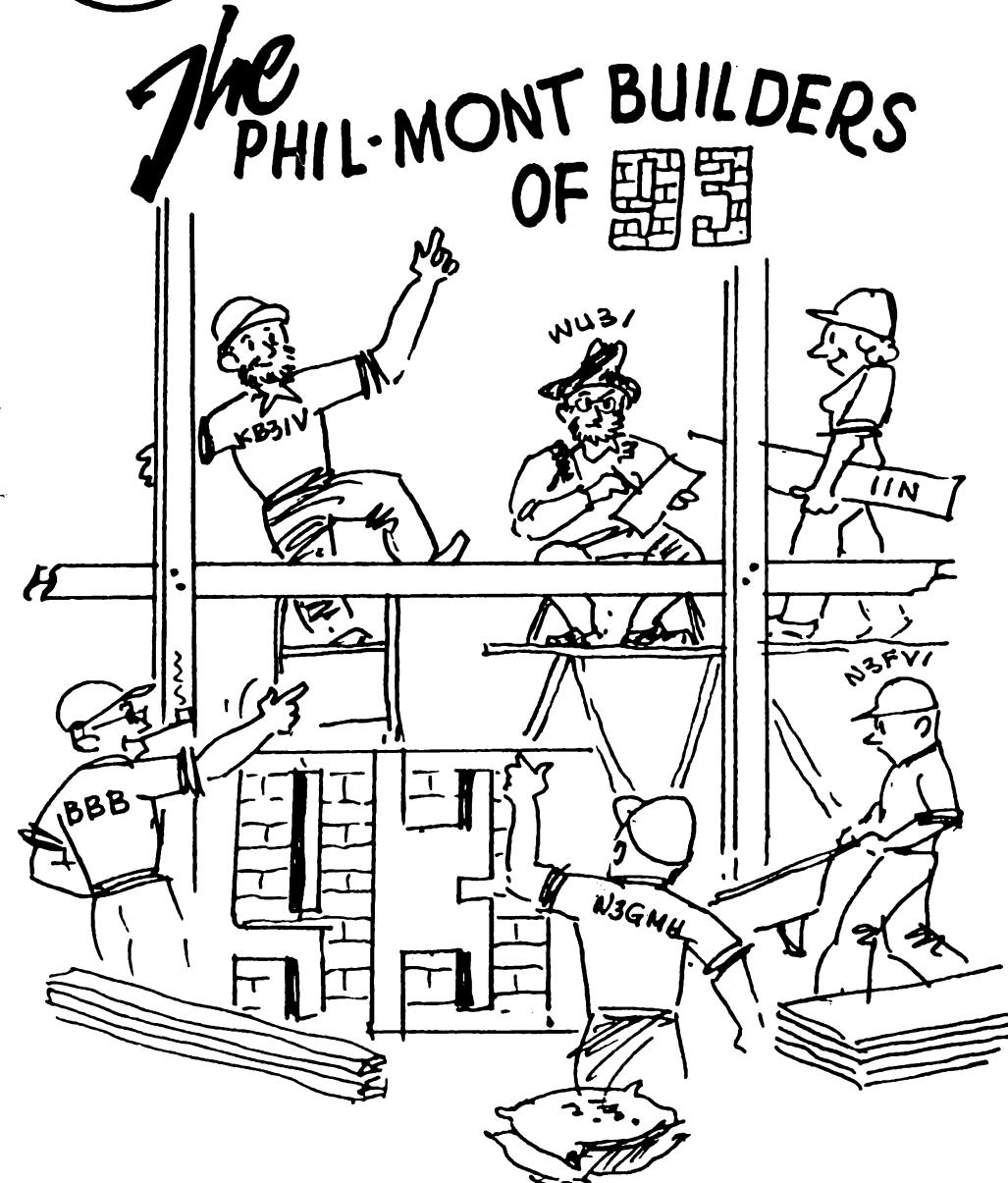
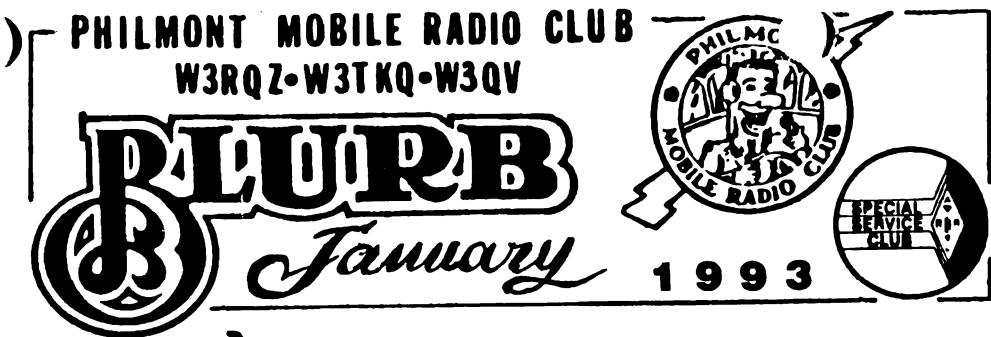
FIRST CLASS MAIL



*A Publication of*  
THE PHIL-MONT MOBILE Radio Club, Inc.

2113 EDGEHILL DRIVE, FURLONG, PA 18925

# THE BLURB



is published monthly by, and for, the members of **The PHIL-MONT MOBILE RADIO CLUB, INC.** whose purpose is to promote Amateur Radio in general, and Mobile Radio in particular. Copying and quoting is permitted with a credit line. We gladly exchange publications with other amateur radio clubs; requests should be sent to the Editor. *BLURB* subscriptions are available to non-members for \$10.00 addressed to the Treasurer. The club meets at 7:30 PM on the first non-holiday WEDNESDAY of every month at **The Franklin Institute Science Museum**, Benjamin Franklin Parkway at 20th Street, Philadelphia. Use the Winter Street (north side) entrance.

### ALL VISITORS ARE WELCOME!

Amateur Radio License Examinations - the first non-holiday Thursday of every month at The Franklin Institute Science Museum—doors close at 6:30 PM-SHARP!

### CLUB INFORMATION

24-Hour Information Number at W3TKQ-(215) 448-1139

Repeater frequencies: 147.03 Hz (Roxboro input requires no PL)

PL required for off-site receiver (OSR) access:

*Bucks County* 131.8 Hz

*Center City* 103.5 Hz

*Lansdale* 114.8 Hz

444.80 MHz (186.2 Hz PL)

Simplex frequency: 147.51 MHz

Packet BBS frequency at W3TKQ: 144.99 MHz

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 88, Abington, PA 19001

### STATIONS

W3QV - 147.03 MHz. Repeater - 8200 Ridge Avenue, Philadelphia, PA - Trustee W3BBB

W3RQZ - 1176 Old York Road, Abington, PA - Trustee W3VVS

W3TKQ - The Franklin Institute Science Museum, Philadelphia, PA - Trustee W3PWG

LICENSED AMATEURS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME TO OPERATE W3TKQ.

### OFFICERS

PRESIDENT: N3FVI, Ed Masarsky, 15 Poe Avenue, Wyncoate, PA 19095 (215) 572-5238

VICE PRESIDENT: N3GMH, Paul Pollicardo, 2425 S. 21st Street, Philadelphia, PA 19145 (215) 465-2247

SECRETARY: WU3I, Steve Hoch, 4638 Oakland Street, Philadelphia, PA 19124 (215) 535-8061

TREASURER: W3IIN, Jinny Haring, 2113 Edgehill Drive, Furlong, PA 18925 (215) 794-7623

### DIRECTORS

W3BBB (94); K3FVI (94); AK2I (93); W3IIM (A); K3KUD (A); N2RM (93); W3RM (A)

### COMMITTEES

|                |        |                |       |                 |        |
|----------------|--------|----------------|-------|-----------------|--------|
| Archives:      | W3IIN  | Emerg. Coord.: | W3BBB | Repeater:       | W3BBB  |
| BLURB:         | W3IIM  | Membership:    | W3IIN | Special Events: | KA3EBC |
| BLURB Folding: | WB3KOJ | Net Control:   | KB3IV | VE Program:     | ND3Q   |
| Budget /Audit: | W3IIN  | Program:       | N3GLH | TVI:            | -----  |
| Directory:     | WB3KOJ | Publicity:     | N3IEI | W3TKQ:          | W3PWG  |
| Education:     | N3FTZ  | Refreshments:  | N3FVI | Welcome:        | -----  |

Special Liaison to The Franklin Institute Science Museum: AK2I

### BLURB STAFF

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Artist: Sam Kuncevich

Labels: WB3KOJ

Publisher/Typist: W3IIN

DEADLINE: To be assured of publication in the current month, all copy MUST be in the hands of the Editor at the Board of Directors' Meeting!

### NET SCHEDULE

|          |       |         |         |                              |
|----------|-------|---------|---------|------------------------------|
| SUNDAY   | 09:30 | 147.030 | MHz FM  | "SUNDAY MORNING 2 METER NET" |
|          | 10:00 | 28.993  | MHz SSB | "10-ON-10 NET"               |
|          | 10:20 | 3.993   | MHz SSB | 75 METER NET                 |
| TUESDAY  | 20:00 | 147.030 | MHz FM  | CW PRACTICE NET              |
| LAST WED | 20:00 | 147.030 | MHz FM  | W3TKQ OPERATORS' NET         |



### APPLE BYTES

Don Gordon, WB3KOJ

### JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 01 Rose Bold (XYL K2ID)  
Frances Powell (XYL N3GPT\*)
- George Starks - AA2FU
- 02 Bob Wilcox - KE3CZ\*
- 03 Rita Gutman (XYL W3FOG)
- 13 Jon Balch - W3KG
- 15 Karen Lenczynski (XYL KA3EIP)
- 16 Susan Starks (XYL AA2FU)
- 17 Lee Kovnat (XYL WB3JUA)  
Eileen Weigand (XYL KA3EBC)
- 18 Marion Bubeck (XYL K3GNM)
- 19 Babs Clayton (XYL K3HIE)  
Bill Mescanti - WB3CMM
- 23 Milt Soss - N3AN
- 27 Susan Markowitz (XYL N3IZZ)
- 28 Bob Schmilewski - K3KUD
- 29 Laura Sims (XYL N3HML)
- 30 Vira Johnston (XYL K3VXU)
- 31 Jim Faries - W3AOA  
Fred Reichert - KA3BET

\*=New member 1992

### HELP PHIL-MONT

Are you planning to join the ARRL or renew your current membership?  
**Remember: The ARRL is more than just a magazine subscription!**

Help Phil-Mont by joining or renewing through the club.  
Contact W3IIN, (our new keeper of the dough) for the details.

### DIRECTORY UPDATE

With the December *BLURB* you received your Dues Invoice & Directory Information Sheet. Please verify the information and return, with your dues, to: W3IIN, JINNY HARING - 2113 EDGEHILL DRIVE - FURLONG, PA 18925.

Your early reply will facilitate the publishing of the 1993 P.M.R.C. Directory.

dates, dues notices and membership directories—all done on an Apple minus-1 machine that even Steve Jobs wouldn't remember how to turn-on!

- **Jinny** (who?) for regularly typing all those unreadable scribbles that are handed to me at the meetings; and for managing the actual "publication" part of the job, by taking the computer output and pasting it in the right page sequence (pull-out the center staple and you'll see what I mean) on 8 1/2 x 11 sheets of paper, then fussing with the local "Speedy Printer" to get the right results every time.

- A nod to **Woody Haldeman** (who?) who made the original contract with these Speedy folks. We still haven't found anyone willing to print [Xerox] and collate for a price as reasonable as these folks.

- Of course, I must thank all of you who have modems that talk to my BBS. The receipt of articles via modem is much appreciated [also error free, unless it's from Farmer Makefield]. It makes my job soooo much easier. (Now, if we can get Mr. Spencer to mothball his 1934 Underwood, and use the computer that he keeps on the top shelf of his guest-room closet, and that gets lifted-down once a year to do his income statement for the tax man. Jake would be happy to teach him how Microsoft Works works.)

- Under the heading of "Why does he always come last?" is good old **Sam Kuncevich**. After 35 years of monthly deadlines, how can I say anything more about him that hasn't already been said?

I called him yesterday to see how he was coming with the monthly drawings (I was beginning to get worried because he was seldom this late with his mailing). He told me that he had been very busy lately, and was working on the cover as we spoke. Lo and behold!... the envelope just landed on my scanner (Jinny went down to the mail box to get the mail). Let me open it as I type, and share with you my first thoughts:

1. It's thick!
2. It cost him \$1.21. (we reimburse)
3. Nine—repeat—nine drawings!!!

Sam's note says: "Bill Clinton has agreed to read the Shipyard Booklet (for 92) that I sent him 2 month ago." Sam has passionately worked on convincing the "powers that be" that it's a major mistake to close the Philadelphia Naval Shipyard. He's prepared a marvelous booklet to this end, and is now chairman of the Save Our Shipyard (SOS, get it?) committee! I'm so pleased that he continues to be so loyal to Phil-Mont through all this turmoil with PNSY!

4. Through it all he still can inject a bit of humor by dating his enclosed letter "FRY-DAY."
5. Can't use all the cartoons this month (postage limit). Watch for them next month.

Did you hear the story about Randolph, the brown-nosed reindeer?... ask Jim, he'll probably get it wrong but he'll make you laugh anyway!

Someone asked me, the other day, how Sam managed to be so current with his cartoons and covers. It's simple, I write him a letter each month, and include it with his copy of the *BLURB*. Since Sam isn't able to attend meetings, and doesn't have a receiver for "oh three," his only source of news and ideas for covers and cartoons is when someone takes the time to communicate with him.

You too are certainly encouraged to do the same when you have an idea that would look good in print (or want to get-back at the editor). Sam likes to hear from members... we should never take him for granted!

W3JIM

**"DON'T TAILGATE—WAIT"**—for the courtesy chime!

## The PREZ SEZ

*Ed Masarsky, KB3IV*



I want to thank all the club members who took the time to participate in the elections, either in person or by submitting their ballot by mail.

Phil-Mont has enjoyed a prestigious place in the community at large, and among other clubs throughout the area. As President my goal is to uphold the fine traditions and reputation established by our club. It is my hope to continue our already successful long-standing activities, and add some new and exciting programs.

Phil-Mont is fortunate to have among

its members those whose special talents and varied interests in ham radio can be a valuable resource. Working together and sharing knowledge will strengthen the future of our club.

We need your input to help plan and implement these new programs and activities. We cannot accommodate your needs and desires if you don't share them with us. Communicate!

I am looking forward to working with my fellow officers during 1993, and want to take this opportunity to wish all of you a happy and healthy New Year.



# LOOKAHEAD

|        |   |
|--------|---|
| Jan 6  | <b>General Meeting</b>                                |
| Jan 7  | License Examinations                                  |
| Jan 20 | Directors' meeting at<br>W3TKQ                        |
| Feb 3  | <b>General Meeting</b>                                |
| Feb 4  | License Examinations                                  |
| Feb 17 | Directors' meeting at<br>C H I Institute, Southampton |

## MEETING LOCATION CHANGE

The January meeting will be held in the "Choices Forum" auditorium, which is located on the third floor of "The Atrium" right next to the elevator. You can enter The Institute from Winter Street or via the elevator from the parking garage.

**CLUB INFORMATION**  
24 Hour Information Number at W3TKQ  
**(215) 448-1139**

# HAMFESTS

|           |  |
|-----------|--|
| Jan 16    | FORT MYERS, FL<br>Fort Myers ARC             |
| Feb 6     | LANCASTER, PA<br>Columbia Area ARC           |
| Feb 27    | LEBANON, PA<br>Appalachian ARG               |
| Mar 13    | FLEMINGTON, NJ<br>Cherryville Repeater Assn. |
| Mar 21    | NEW CASTLE, DE<br>Penn-Del ARC               |
| Apr 23-25 | DAYTON, OHIO<br>Hamvention                   |

# V.E. TEST LOCATIONS

Confirm all information, in advance, with the contact person. Licensed applicants must bring a their original license and one photocopy of it. All applicants, including children, must present positive ID. Also bring the original, and a copy, of any Certificate of Successful Completion needed to prove current status. The ARRL VEC's 1993 test fee is \$5.60; there is no charge for a Novice test.

|                            |   |
|----------------------------|---|
| Monthly, 1st Thursday      | <b>THE FRANKLIN INSTITUTE</b><br>Dusty Rhoads, ND3Q<br>(215) 482-0386<br>(215) 879-0505       |
| Monthly, 3rd Thursday      | <b>BELLMAWR, NJ</b><br>Bill Helmatag<br>(609) 546-7710  |
| Irregularly                | <b>BRYN MAWR</b><br>Bob Lees<br>(215) 265-6032  |
| Monthly, 1st Thursday      | <b>LEVITTOWN</b><br>Dave Heller, K3TX<br>(215) 946-1040<br>(215) 736-3333                     |
| Monthly, 3rd Wednesday     | <b>MORRISVILLE</b><br>Dave Munson, NM3K<br>(215) 788-7515                                     |
| Monthly, 1st Monday        | <b>POTTSSTOWN</b><br>Warren Erdman K3ZXQ<br>(215) 679-5764                                    |
| Monthly, 3rd Monday        | <b>TELFORD</b><br>Warren Erdman K3ZXQ<br>(215) 679-5764                                       |
| Monthly, Last Saturday     | <b>UNIVERSITY OF PA</b><br>Garrett Klein, WZ3G<br>(215) 898-8538 shack<br>(215) 222-8752 home |
| Odd Months, Last Wednesday | <b>WARMINSTER</b><br>Tom Michaud, WA3TQJ<br>(215) 343-3494                                    |

# Feedback

If you haven't yet figured it out, this is the editor's column.

Due to a well-earned vacation and an important business conference (in Florida, heh heh), the February issue of the *BLURB* will be mailed a week later than usual. Meanwhile... hope to see all you snow-birds at the Fort Myers hamfest!

While I'm at it, let me personally thank Don and Natalie for taking-over the *BLURB* folding (and mailing) committee responsibilities. It's not a big job, but "somebodysgotaudit," and they have to be dependable. And, just think, it'll save the club all those postage expenses that Don incurred in mailing me the labels each month!... Now, who's gonna help them? It only takes 2-3 hours a month, and nearly always falls on the second Thursday following the Mid-Month meeting. In the "good old days" it was always a

"night out with the boys" at Spencerville. I personally attended one of those sessions, and was handed a "rubber finger" (no, it didn't have any vaseline on it) for the collating chore. Thank goodness those days are gone. Now all that's needed is a "saddle" staple, edge staple(s), address labels and stamps... but still it's a great time socializing.

Now, since I've gone to all the trouble to set up my podium, (and figure-out how to get that silly column heading to print backwards), I might as well share with you some of my own awards:

- For past help with the folding chores—**Rick Spencer**, who (contrary to popular belief) never ate his weight in meatballs, or anything else. (The Southern Comfort consumption is another issue.)
- **Don Gordon**—for endless, unrecognized support of the *BLURB* with his regular, and dependable mailings of the monthly mailing labels, the annual membership up-



## ANNUAL AWARDS PRESENTED

Certificates of Appreciation

**KB3IV**—Ed has been treasurer for the longest number of years, even longer than "dolarsigngeorge." Ed served for 11 years, and is now to be elected unanimously for President of Phil-Mont. He was presented with bags of Chanukah Gelt attached to his certificate.

**W3UI**—Steve has been energetic, available and caring, not only for club activities, but for individuals who need his help in all aspects of amateur radio.

**W3BBB**—Jim was honored for his outstanding efforts in the rebuilding of W3TKQ and offset sites. No honor would be sufficient to equal his continual contributions to our club.

**N3DHI**—Rick was honored for his work, especially in establishing and maintaining the off-site receiver locations. Rick is carrying out the family tradition of availability for trouble-shooting problems that arise with the repeater. This is in keeping with his personality that has also made him into a great volunteer fireman.

**WT3P**—Kay, who is the vice director of the Atlantic Division of ARRL, was honored for her financial and personal influence that significantly assisted in the renovation and permanent establishment of W3TKQ at The Franklin Institute.

Phil-Monter Of The Year

**W3FVI**—Bill was complimented for his quiet cooperation and continual encouragement for the numerous club activities that

took place during his two years of Presidency. He presided with dignity and purpose at a time when the club serged ahead with great accomplishments.

The Leroy Hauser Memorial Award

**AK2I**—Since Jake retired from Sears and became a full-time Phil-Monter, the club has gained what Sears lost. This includes great enthusiasm, intelligence, loyalty and sense of purpose. His diplomacy and persuasiveness have assisted in the development of the world's finest amateur radio station. We are proud of the station, and we are proud of Jake.

The George Weed Memorial Award

This award was presented by Bob Schmileske, K3KUD, to Mr. William Mitchell, Assistant Vice President of Bell of Pennsylvania. It was through Mr. Mitchell's efforts that the club was able to install an off-site receiving antenna atop Bell's #1 Parkway building. The new location will permit reliable emergency communications coverage of such center-city events as the Core-States Bike Race.



## MINUTES

## DECEMBER GENERAL MEETING

*Steve Hoch, WU3I, Secretary*



surer longer than Ernie (W3D\$G).

- **WU3I** for his volunteering time at W3TKQ.

**KA3EBC**, for special events, reminded all that there were only 8 months until the American Cancer Society Bikathon. So mark your calendar! July 18, 1993.

**N3FVI** made a plea for any new equipment for W3TKQ. Any donations are TAX DEDUCTIBLE.

There was one new member presented at the meeting, Woosup Lee, N3NDV. WELCOME Woosup Lee!!!

The 50-50 was sold by KD4PWG, picked by Mim Roeshman (XYL of W3LKI), and won by WT3X.

There were 40 members and ten guests present. The guests were Bill Mitchell, V.P. of Bell Atlantic; Ted Braverman, Don Stasney, N3LJC; Mim Roeshman, XYL of W3LKI; John Mills, N3NNM; Elaine Spencer, XYL of W3BBB; Jackie Chedeville, XYL of W3GQD; John Verlin, KA3VUU; Joann Smith; and Steven Haas.

**AK2I**, Judge of Elections, introduced the candidates. Following their speeches, the election of officers was held. The results of the elections are:

- PRESIDENT, KB3IV**
- VICE PRESIDENT, WT3X, 34 N3GMH 43**
- TREASURER, W3IIN 60, W3YLT 20**
- SECRETARY, N3AXJ 19, WU3I 61**
- DIRECTORS, W3BBB 58, W3GQD 8, N3FVI 40, K3KUD 23, KA3EBC 7, N3GWG 3, W3LKI 15**

The meeting ended at 9:45 P.M.

## MINUTES

## DECEMBER DIRECTORS' MEETING

Steve Hoch, WU3I, Secretary

N3FVI opened the lame duck session at 8:24 upon his arrival at the home of N3GLU and KB3IV. Bill announced that this was his lunch hour and we had to move along (don't we all wish we had a lunch like that?). Attending were W3s PXY, BBB, IIM, IRS, a surprise visit from WB3s KOH and KOJ, WU3I, KB3IV, N2RM, K3KUD, N3GLH, N3IEI and N3FVI.

KB3IV gave a final (in more ways than one) treasurer's report. The money was almost gone, but there was enough to finish the year. Ed thanked W3IIM and WB3KOJ for getting the dues notices out early, and reported that the dues were coming very well.

W3IIM [for W3IIN] reported (and boy did he) that the Budget Committee had formulated a budget and it was submitted to the Board for its approval. A motion was made by W3IIM to accept the Budget. N3FVI seconded; there were no dissenting votes.

Jack handed out a proposed meeting schedule for 1993 and, after one amendment, it was accepted. Anyone who is able to host a Mid-Month meeting please contact a board member or club officer. Last year three members of the board doubled up on hosting a meeting. Jack announced there were eight new applicants to vote on for membership they were:

**KB3AHQ**, George Sellers, Jr.; **KD2CR**, Len Kravitz; **KB2GAJ**, Robert Whelan; **N2MGI**, Matt Parker; **N3NDX**, Roberto Ellison; **N3NLI**, George Cahill; **KA3TLE**, Alfred Lamberti; **AA3CH**, Russell Stafford. A motion was made by N3GLH to accept the new members. KB3IV seconded; there were no dissenting votes. Welcome to our new members.

Jack took the opportunity to review the list of complimentary *BLURBS* that are mailed out. The list was revised slightly and approved. The *BLURB* will be a week late for February due to a vacation schedule conflict.

For W3IIN, Jack announced the need for an Audit Committee meeting in early January.

Jack announced the need for a *BLURB* folding Committee as the old Committee (IIM, IIN, DHI) has retired. WB3s KOH & KOJ graciously volunteered for ONE YEAR.

W3BBB reported that Bell of Pennsylvania was charging the line at the repeater a dollar per month for 911 service. Jim also announced the need for financing in the future if the club goes to using a voter and the existing three remote inputs. The figure calculated was \$1,600.

W3BBB reported on a letter from W3GXV, Gene Pressler about the problems with frequency coordination, not only with PMRC but in the entire section. Gene has stated his intended involvement to try to help resolve the coordination woes. [See letter elsewhere in this issue.—Ed]

KB3IV reported that the net controls were going to be reviewed, and sooner or later he would make up a new format sheet to distribute to the operators.

W3IRS announced the hospitalization of Bill Isherwood, KA3VTR. A card to be sent to Bill was signed by all attending.

KB3IV appointed his directors for 1993 they are: K3KUD, W3IIM and W3RM.

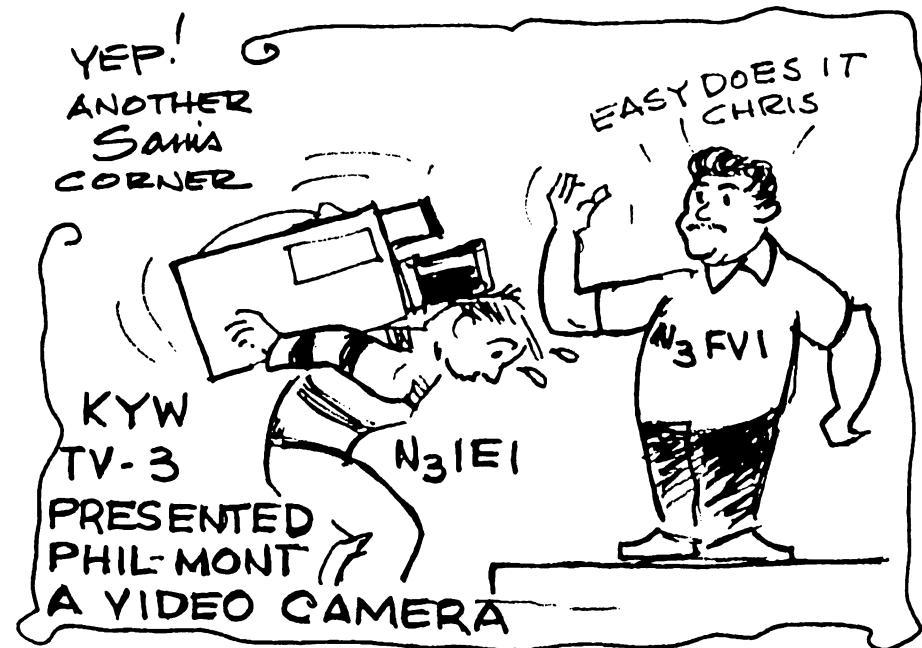
KB3IV made the motion to adjourn at 9:20, K3KUD seconded; there were no dissenting votes.

Thanks to Sharon N3GLU and Ed KB3IV for their hospitality and refreshments.

## For Sale—Estate Equipment

|   |               |       |
|---|---------------|-------|
| Monitor Radio MRC 33 .....                              | LEM-04 .....  | \$ 10 |
| MFJ model 812 SWR bridge .....                          | LEM-07 .....  | 15    |
| Kenwood SWT-2 VHF antenna tuning unit .....             | LEM-09 .....  | 15    |
| RCA VTVM model WV-77A .....                             | LEM-10 .....  | 5     |
| Rohn #6 tower, 20 ft w/tilt base and taper top .....    | LEM-14 .....  | 40    |
| Mini-quad beam 10-15-20 .....                           | LEM-15 .....  | 40    |
| Alliance Tenna-rotor U-110 .....                        | LEM-16 .....  | 15    |
| Archer rotator .....                                    | LEM-17 .....  | 15    |
| MFJ Versa Tuner II 300 w .....                          | LFM-18 .....  | 75    |
| 10 Mtr vertical coaxial antenna (PMRC) .....            | LEM-20 .....  | 10    |
| MFJ model 816 SWR bridge .....                          | LEM-24 .....  | 15    |
| Kenwood 711-A w/MC-60 mike. 2 meter all mode 25 w. .... | LEM-27 .....  | 450   |
| Kenwood TS-520, SP 520, manual w/MC-50 mike .....       | OZR-2+3 ..... | 350   |
| Alliance Tenna-rotor HD-73 .....                        | OZR-5 .....   | 25    |
| Hallicrafters HA-1 keyer .....                          | OZR-6 .....   | 10    |
| Archer SWR bridge 21-575 2-30 mHz .....                 | OZR-9 .....   | 10    |
| Tempo SWR bridge model RFB-1 .....                      | OZR-10 .....  | 10    |
| Micronta power supply 22-127-C 12v @ 1.75 A .....       | OZR-11 .....  | 5     |
| 3 element tri-band beam— <i>buyer remove</i> .....      | OZR-14 .....  | 25    |
| 4 element 2 meter beam— <i>buyer remove</i> .....       | OZR-15 .....  | 15    |
| 40-10 vertical antenna— <i>buyer remove</i> .....       | OZR-16 .....  | 25    |
| Micronta 22-204-C multimeter .....                      | OZR-18 .....  | 10    |
| Heath SWR bridge model HM 202 .....                     | OZR-19 .....  | 10    |
| Drake TVI filter model TV 3300 .....                    | OZR-20 .....  | 5     |
| Astatic D-104 w/G stand .....                           | OZR-21 .....  | 40    |

For Information: C. R. Spencer Jr W3BBB, 215-362-5172 or 147.03 repeater.





# THE W3TKQ REPORT

The International Voice of The Franklin Institute Science Museum

by  
Jake Kovalchek,  
AK2I

After 14 months of operation at W3TKQ, I can proudly say that your club has achieved a milestone, in that more than 120,000 people thus far have seen the station, and have witnessed the achievements of Phil-Mont, as well as that of amateur radio at its best. My special congratulations go to those volunteers who have faithfully fulfilled their respective time slots at W3TKQ. You have once again shown that The Phil-Mont Mobile Radio Club is more than just another club—you've proven beyond a doubt it's a "class act," highly respected in the area.

For proof of this comment just take a look at our phenomenal growth in membership for 1992... a whopping 33%. Show me one other club that had those statistics.

I must, however, talk about the maintenance budget for W3TKQ for 1993. My estimate is that it will take another \$850 in order to provide all the necessary repairs for this second year of operation. The computers, the drives, the radios and antennas, and the other related equipment will naturally need, at one time or another, some repairs.

My hope is this: if every member of Phil-Mont would contribute to this operating fund, we could meet our goal at a cost of just \$6 per person. I don't feel I have to say any more than that.

W3TKQ is now a reality, and can now be enjoyed by all of us.

*[Editor's note: anyone wishing to contribute to this "operating fund" may include the additional amount with their dues check. Our treasurer will properly allocate the contribution if it's noted on the check.]*

## WHAT'S WRONG WITH LOCAL FREQUENCY COORDINATION?

An Opinion and Comment by Gene Pressler, W3ZXV

By FCC regulation, the business of amateur radio frequency coordination has been delegated to groups of volunteer "frequency coordinators" located geographically around the country. The theory behind this, according to the FCC at the time, was that "...regional and national planning and coordination by amateur radio operators themselves (emphasis supplied) can result in the best spectrum utilization appropriate to the service."

It's hard to find an argument with this general theory. Amateurs have always maintained a long tradition of keeping their own house in order and certainly there are obvious advantages to supporting a system in which amateurs are charged with handling their own frequency coordination responsibilities without the involvement of the FCC. In our area, The Philadelphia Area Repeater Council (TPARC) is the volunteer group responsible for repeater frequency coordination.

And how well is the system here working? Unfortunately, not very well!

Everyone knows that, for too long now, TPARC has been receiving criticism from many quarters. This criticism has ranged from "I can't find out what I need to do to get a repeater coordinated" to "I can't even get an answer to my request for coordinating a repeater I want to put on the air."

### There is no doubt that the system is clearly broken!

But has anyone taken the time to find out why... or to see things from TPARC's perspective?

TPARC operates with a number of volunteers, each of whom is responsible for handling coordination requests for one or two VHF or UHF bands. TPARC asks that nominal monetary contributions accompany requests for each repeater coordination and for each biennial repeater re-coordination. TPARC asks for these contributions because there are certain expenses involved in these actions by the coordinators... printing, stationery, telephone calls, and postage, etc. and to support the research necessary to process and assign repeater frequencies in amateur radio bands which are growing ever more congested.

TPARC needs to maintain an extensive computer-based system used for recording active repeaters in the area, and input from this system is used for frequency coordination of new repeaters, and to periodically up-date the ARRL "Repeater Directory." To keep its system current, TPARC also needs to conduct surveys every two years to confirm which of its

coordinated repeaters are active and which have become inactive for one reason or another.

So what's wrong with the system?

The main problem is that TPARC has not had the support of the amateur repeater community. Repeater owners spend thousands of dollars for state-of-the-art repeater equipment, but TPARC draws fire every time it asks for the financial support it needs to do its job. "Who is TPARC to ask us for money to respond to a coordination request?" they ask, and "TPARC is trying to sell operating frequencies?"

Who are we kidding? If TPARC could "sell" repeater frequencies, it could do so for more than the \$25 contribution it asks for coordinating a repeater, and [for] more than \$10 a year from each of the repeaters it coordinates!

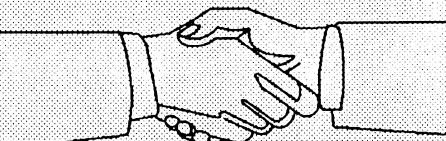
### Why are we having problems?

It's because the amateur repeater community isn't supporting the system and TPARC volunteer frequency coordinators are each spending \$200-300 of their own money every year just for the privilege of serving repeater owners' needs!

TPARC is responsible for the coordination needs of hundreds of repeaters in its coverage area and, right now, its volunteers are faced with the need to find the money needed to make a too-long delayed mailing to repeater owners in order to up-date its data base. Clearly, without that accurate data base, it cannot make sensible repeater coordination decisions!

Several repeater organizations are getting together now to help supply manpower and to underwrite expenses for the mailing of a current survey. Included in that mailing will be a request for financial support from the amateur community that TPARC serves. We need TPARC! Without it, the whole system of repeater coordination could collapse into chaos, and invite FCC involvement in what should be an amateur-managed process. Let's quit carping and help TPARC by responding to its needs!

*Gene Pressler, W3ZXV, is a long-time amateur, a member of three repeater groups and president of another in Southeastern Pennsylvania. His comments here were written as an individual who had become concerned with the state of repeater coordination in the area, and who had taken the time to do a little research on the causes of the problem. His comments reflect his own personal opinion based on that research and are not necessarily those of any other organization to which he belongs.*



## NEW MEMBER APPLICATIONS

**N3MGS**  
Richard Malone, Sr.  
Dick  
Technician  
4000 Gypsy Lane - 514  
Philadelphia, PA  
19144-5532  
(215) 849-3588  
HOME PHONE: (215) 387-1931  
BUSINESS PHONE: Property Manager  
INTERESTS:

**WO3D**  
George Walmsley  
HANDLE:  
CLASS: Extra  
ADDRESS: 5309 Saul Street  
Philadelphia, PA  
19124  
HOME PHONE: (215) 289-7653  
BUSINESS PHONE: (215) 761-2269  
OCCUPATION: Insurance Consultant  
INTERESTS: VE program

**N3MUC**  
Joseph Lerro  
Joe  
Technician  
2061 Lombard Street  
Philadelphia, PA  
19146  
HOME PHONE: (215) 732-8442  
BUSINESS PHONE: (215) 596-2500  
OCCUPATION: Data Processing  
INTERESTS: W3TKQ

**K2JF**  
John Fisher  
HANDLE: John  
CLASS: Extra  
ADDRESS: 538 Wesley Avenue  
Pitman, NJ  
08071-1924  
HOME PHONE: (609) 589-2318  
BUSINESS PHONE:  
OCCUPATION: Retired Physics Professor  
INTERESTS: W3TKQ, DX

**N3NNM**  
John Mills VI  
John  
Technician  
103 Pine Street  
Philadelphia, PA  
19106-4311  
(215) 238-0184  
HOME PHONE:  
BUSINESS PHONE:  
OCCUPATION:  
INTERESTS: Student  
Publicity

**N3LJC**  
Donald Stasney  
HANDLE: Donald  
CLASS: Technician  
ADDRESS: 2305 Pierce Street  
Philadelphia, PA  
19145  
HOME PHONE: (215) 755-9071  
BUSINESS PHONE: (215) 872-3600  
OCCUPATION: Photo Engraver  
INTERESTS:

**KA3VVU**  
Jonathan Verlin  
Jon  
Advanced  
8212 Forest Hills Drive  
Elkins Park, PA  
19117  
HOME PHONE: (215) 886-1147  
BUSINESS PHONE: (215) 561-3800  
OCCUPATION: Teacher  
INTERESTS: BLURB, VE

## 92ND MONTHLY VE SESSION STATISTICS DECEMBER

23 candidates pass 20 elements  
6 new amateurs plus 4 upgrades

VE team members:

**Dusty Rhoads, ND3Q, Chairman**

Bob Wilcox, KE3CZ; George Starks, AA2FU; Niel Leone, W3FZR;  
Vince Braxton, K3SNZ; Al Tribble, W3STW; Steve Hoch, WU3I

AMATEUR LICENSE EXAMS HELD ON THE FIRST  
NON-HOLIDAY THURSDAY OF EVERY MONTH

Registration begins at 6:00 PM

Doors close at 6:30 PM sharp

**THE FRANKLIN INSTITUTE  
SCIENCE MUSEUM**



For Information Call ND3Q at  
(215) 482-0386 or 879-0505  
Accessible by the handicapped.



## Classes

**Flemington, NJ—Cherryville Repeater Assn.**

Jan 14 Hunterdon Central HS Novice/Technician N2KRR

**Newtown, PA—Penn Wireless Association**

Feb 4 Bucks County Comm. Col. Novice/Technician 968-8409

**Philadelphia, PA—Phil-Mont Mobile Radio Club**

Feb 7 The Franklin Institute Technician 448-1260

### Adult/Teen Workshop at The Franklin Institute, sponsored by PMRC

The first class of the winter schedule, for the adult/teen workshops on Amateur Radio's No Code Technician License, will be held on Sundays from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM starting February 7, through May 2.

Our own Ted Lada, N3FTZ, will be instructing this ten week course on the No Code Technician class license. The course, offered to the public by The Franklin Institute through the cooperation of our club and W3TKQ, more than fulfills the

requirements needed to pass the FCC examinations given by Dusty Rhoads and his team of VEs.

Anyone needing more information on the cost and the time requirements, call Eva Zison at the Institute at (215) 448-1260. The price will include the materials needed in order to complete the course. The good news is that, as of this writing, there are already eight people registered.

Good Luck Ted, and thank you again for your commitment both to amateur radio and to Phil-Mont. AK2I

*Same  
CORNER  
Nº 1*

**BOB  
KUD**

**PRESENTS**  
BELL  
TELEPHONE  
A  
PHL-MONT  
AWARD — THEN THIS HAPPEND

*NOW LET THE  
ELECTIONS BEGIN!*

*Same  
OTHER  
CORNER*

**MINUTE  
MAN  
STEVE  
WU3J  
IS NOW  
OUR  
NEW  
MINUTE  
SECRETARY**



*HE GAVE UP BRINGING THE OL' FLINTLOCK*

1993

## JANUARY

1993

| SUNDAY  | MONDAY                              | TUESDAY   | WEDNESDAY   | THURSDAY  | FRIDAY   | SATURDAY  |
|---|-------------------------------------|---|---|---|--|---|
| <b>3</b><br>AA2FU N2JFF<br>WB3JUA WT3X<br>KT3Z<br><br>2M NCS K3JJO<br>10M NCS ANYONE<br>75M NCS W3PWG                                 | <b>4</b><br>W3PWG<br>WU3I<br>K3VXU  | <b>5</b><br>N3ALW WU3I<br>WT3P W3STW<br><br>CODE PRACTICE<br>NET at 8 PM  | <b>6</b><br>NSAXJ KD2CR<br>N2JF K3PHC<br><br>GENERAL MEETING<br>at<br><b>The Franklin Institute</b><br>Refreshments at 7:00 PM<br>Meeting starts after 7:30   | <b>7</b><br>N3FVI AK2I<br>W3STW NU3Y<br><br>LICENSE EXAMS<br>at<br><b>The Franklin Institute</b><br>Registration begins at 6:00<br>Doors close at 6:30 PM<br>sharp! | <b>8</b><br>WE3D WU3I W3LKI<br>N2RCJ KA3WWK<br><br><i>New Year's Day</i><br>W3TKQ closed | <b>9</b><br>N3GMH KA4PWG<br>K3TEF KA3WWK<br>NS3Y<br><br><b>2</b><br>N3GMH<br>K3JJO KA4PWG<br>K3TEF KA3WWK<br>NS3Y |
| <b>10</b><br>AA2FU N2JFF<br>WB3JUA WT3X<br>KT3Z<br><br>2M NCS NS3Y<br>10M NCS ANYONE<br>75M NCS W3AOA                                 | <b>11</b><br>W3PWG<br>WU3I<br>K3VXU | <b>12</b><br>N3ALW WU3I<br>WT3P W3STW<br><br>CODE PRACTICE<br>NET at 8 PM | <b>13</b><br>N3AXJ KD2CR<br>N2JF K3PHC  | <b>14</b><br>N3FVI AK2I<br>W3STW NU3Y   | <b>15</b><br>WE3D WU3I W3LKI<br>N2RCJ KA3WWK   | <b>16</b><br>N3GMH KA4PWG<br>K3TEF KA3WWK<br>NS3Y<br><br><i>Fort Myers Hamfest</i>                                |
| <b>17</b><br>AA2FU N2JFF<br>WB3JUA WT3X<br>KT3Z<br><br>2M NCS NS3Z<br>10M NCS ANYONE<br>75M NCS W3RCE<br><br><i>Ben Franklin 1706</i> | <b>18</b><br>W3PWG<br>WU3I<br>K3VXU | <b>19</b><br>N3ALW WU3I<br>WT3P W3STW<br><br>CODE PRACTICE<br>NET at 8 PM | <b>20</b><br>N3AXJ KD2CR<br>N2JF K3PHC<br><br>DIRECTORS'<br>MEETING at<br>W3TKQ   | <b>21</b><br>N3FVI AK2I<br>W3STW NU3Y<br><br><i>Stonewall Jackson 1824</i>  | <b>22</b><br>WE3D WU3I W3LKI<br>N2RCJ KA3WWK   | <b>23</b><br>N3GMH KA4PWG<br>K3TEF KA3WWK<br>NS3Y   |
| <b>24</b><br>AA2FU N2JFF<br>WB3JUA WT3X<br>KT3Z<br><br>2M NCS KB3IV<br>10M NCS ANYONE<br>75M NCS AK2I                                 | <b>25</b><br>W3PWG<br>WU3I<br>K3VXU | <b>26</b><br>N3ALW WU3I<br>WT3P W3STW<br><br>CODE PRACTICE<br>NET at 8 PM | <b>27</b><br>N3AXJ KD2CR<br>N2JF K3PHC<br><br><br><i>Douglas MacArthur<br/>1880</i><br><br>OPERATORS' NET at 8 PM | <b>28</b><br>N3FVI AK2I<br>W3STW NU3Y   | <b>29</b><br>WE3D WU3I W3LKI<br>N2RCJ KA3WWK   | <b>30</b><br>N3GMH KA4PWG<br>K3TEF KA3WWK<br>NS3Y<br><br><i>F. D. Roosevelt 1882</i>                              |
| <b>31</b><br>AA2FU N2JFF<br>WB3JUA WT3X<br>KT3Z<br><br>2M NCS <b>W3BBB</b><br>10M NCS ANYONE<br>75M NCS W3HFY                         |                                     |   | <i>Ideas never work<br/>unless you do.</i>  |   |  |                              |